



GET THAT JOB – With Voluntary Action Waltham Forest

Introduction

Voluntary Action Waltham Forest is an organisation working to strengthen the voluntary and community sector in Waltham Forest. We have a great staff team and are looking for more people to join this friendly organisation. We want to give everyone a chance to work for us, and hope that our few tips might ensure that you are applying for the job that you want, and have the skills, experience, and knowledge that we feel is needed for this post.

We also hope that if you find, after reading the information and following our tips that this post does not come up to your expectation that these tips will assist you in applying for other posts, whether with Voluntary Action in the future, or another organisation.

Shortlisting

We have introduced a “blind shortlisting process”. This simple means that those who score your application will not know if you are male, female, or which ethnic origin you are from. All they will be interested in is the quality of the application form. You can rest assured that a fully completed personal statement will bring you nearer to being invited to interview with us.

Please read our tips to assist you in getting that job.

Tip #1 We would encourage you to read the job description and personal specification. The job description will give you a good idea of the tasks that you would expect to do. The person specification outlines the skills and abilities, experience and expertise, and knowledge and understanding that we are looking for. You should satisfy yourself that this is the post for you. Ask yourself “Is this job really what I am looking for?”

Tip #2 Ask yourself the question on each task of the job description “Can I show that I have done this task?” If you can say that for most of the tasks, you are likely to be someone we want to see.

Tip #3 Read through the personal specification and ask yourself “Can I demonstrate that I have the experience, skills, and ability for this post?”. Once you are sure that you can for most of the person specification, we would encourage you to apply.

Tip #4 Put it all on paper!! You write down why you think you are good enough for the job on in the personal statement part of the application form drawing on the requirements in the person specification. Even if you are an internal candidate we will only be marking you based on what you have written down. We will not score on any implied skills and knowledge. If it's not in the personal statement we won't score you.

Tip #5 If you are unsure of what to write, produce a draft. You might need at least two drafts to bring it up to a level you are happy with.

Good luck with your application!